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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Nancy E. Yorke

Nancy E. Yorke  
Signature

July 7, 2004  
Date

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hofmann *et al.*

Serial No.: 08/913,644

Case No.: 19424PC

Art Unit:

1648

Filed: November 21, 1997

Examiner:

For: DNA ENCODING HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS  
TYPE 18

Salimi, A.

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1415  
Alexandria, VA 22313

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Sir:

This amendment is submitted in response to the outstanding Office Action mailed April 7, 2004, in the above-identified application, having a three-month period for response set to expire July 7, 2004. Applicants respectfully request the following amendments be entered and the claims considered in light thereof.

A Notice of Appeal and Request for Corrected Filing Receipt are submitted herewith. Also included in this submission is a new, signed Declaration that complies with the rules set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.67(a) and MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

Please charge any fees due in connection with this amendment to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755. Please credit any overpayment or charge any fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**REMARKS** begin on page 4 of this paper.